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Arizona Corporation Commission
DOCKETED

William Mundell, Commissioner
Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 W. Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Re: Docket No. T-00000A-97-0238, Qwest's 271 Application

AUG 2 7 2003

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Dear Commissioner Mundell:

I have been advised by the Commission Staff that during the open meeting held August 21, 2003, you asked if anyone knew of any problems that had arisen with Qwest Corporation's ("Qwest") operation support systems ("OSS") in other states since its 271 applications were approved.

MCI's overall mass market (consumer) local exchange carrier ("LEC") reject rate for orders submitted was 15.4% for all Bell operating companies combined for the week ended August 15, 2003. The Qwest reject rate dropped below 30% for the first time that week to 28.4%. The overall small business market LEC reject rate was at 41.3%. The Qwest reject rate for small business orders was 40.7%. Below is a summary of our most recent experiences with Qwest's OSS and OSS documentation that impacts rejection of our orders in Qwest's OSS.

1. Intermediated Access ("IMA") is the method provided by Qwest for CLECs to access Qwest's OSS and process local orders. IMA solely impacts CLECs ordering practices and is not used by Qwest's retail side of its business. The current Change Management Process ("CMP") document lacks sufficient language to require that within specific timeframes Qwest correct software defects when the defect impacts CLECs' abilities to process local service requests ("LSRs"). Without such language, CLECs have no guarantees from Qwest that software defects will be fixed in a timely manner. A defect in the software means the system is not working in accordance with Qwest's published business rules. In turn, when a defect is identified, it is inappropriate for Qwest to simply update the document accordingly because it then places the burden on CLECs to adjust coding they implemented based on the prior documented business rules. In April 2003, MCI initiated a change request through CMP to provide such language that will be subject to a unanimous vote. It is anticipated that Qwest will reject the change request based upon attempts to negotiate a resolution through the CMP , process.

2. Qwest must synch up system edits with those being performed manually by their Interconnect Service Center ("ISC") personnel. Qwest implemented a system change request that would allow migration order types (UNE-P migrations) to be processed by entering the telephone number and house number only. The intent of the

"migrate by TN" change request was that less information would be required on the order than was required prior to the change that would result in less rejects for CLECs. After implementation, MCI saw a significant increase in migration order manual rejects and noted that the ISC personnel were editing more than what was required. A process change was implemented by Qwest after MCI provided examples of the out of synch condition between systems/manual processing of LSRs. A process must be established by Qwest to synch up system and manual edit processing. Qwest has agreed that the process is necessary, but there is no formal commitment to begin.

3.   When Qwest implemented what was expected to be Industry Standard "migrate as specified" ordering requirements, it neglected to provide "end-state" view requirements for features that drive blocking and hunting requests. In accordance with a Z-tel change request, Z-Tel requested "the ability to migrate customers as specified without having to list changes to the customer's current feature set." Qwest continues to require a distinction be made between what exists and what is changing for blocking and hunting features.

4.   When Qwest system edits are not documented or documented incorrectly, CLEC local orders are either rejected and/or incorrectly provisioned. MCI recently discovered a Qwest back-end system edit that is attempting to validate complete address information that is not required under Qwest published business rules. The edit requires address information be an exact match to what is listed in Qwest PREMIS database and can be retrieved via a preorder service address validation ("SAV") query. Not only are the address fields not supposed to be edited, but CLECs are not and should not be required to perform an SAV preorder query because it increases order processing timeframes. Moreover, an update to documentation would place the burden on CLECs to make system changes to accommodate what should have been documented correctly in the first place.
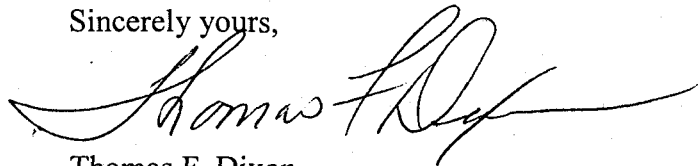
Another significant issue that can result when documentation is not adequately reflecting how the system is working is requested end user services are not provisioned. Qwest recently determined that blocking features are required to be provided in alphabetical order because that is how the system "expects" blocking features. If blocking features are not provided in alphabetical order, Qwest may only provision those that are provided for in alphabetical order, thus an out of synch condition may exist between what was requested and what Qwest provisioned. At this time the impact of this problem is unknown but Qwest was requested to provide analysis between LSR requests and Service Orders provisioned to determine the impact.

5.   Qwest cannot provide to CLECs the most current customer service record ("CSR") because it maintains retail CSRs as "live" until the end user's bill is rendered, paid and posted to Qwest billing system. When a CLEC migrates a local customer, Qwest houses two active customer service records. One with Qwest retail information and one that is generated for the CLEC when the customer migrates. The IMA system determines which CSR is valid per order by the use of a customer code identifier internally tracked by Qwest. If the CLEC is requested by the end-user to

change and/or correct what was provisioned, CLECs must distinguish which CSR is the customers and provide the valid customer code or the order will reject. MCI initiated a change request to eliminate multiple match conditions (SCR102202-01 - Customer Service Record) on October 22, 2002. While Qwest implemented changes to reduce multiple CSR scenarios, it did not address the intent of the original request which referenced the largest impact to CLECs. That is post migration when CLECs are most impacted by multiple CSR conditions 100% of the time until Qwest rendered, billed and posted the retail end user's final bill. Thus, MCI continues to see a large volume of rejects that are a result of multiple match CSR conditions.

A copy of this letter is being docketed and sent to all parties on the service list and being e-mailed to parties as well.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas F. Dixon